



Department of Justice

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JURY CONVICTS DRUG TRAFFICKING RINGLEADER

Faces at least 20 years imprisonment

DAYTON - A United States District Court jury here has convicted Charles Goff, Jr., age 37, of Dayton of one count of conspiracy to traffic drugs and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Cromwell A. Handy, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, and Randy Terry, Acting Resident Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration Dayton, announced the verdict returned yesterday at the conclusion of a trial that began September 28 before United States District Judge Thomas M. Rose.

Goff faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years in prison.

"Goff is one of 14 people indicted for his role in a drug trafficking operation that put hundreds of kilograms of cocaine on Dayton area streets between 1996 and 2004," Lockhart said. "The jury's verdict closes the book on one of Dayton's largest drug trafficking organizations."

According to testimony presented during the trial, agents arrested Goff in 1996 after undercover agents seized more than 40 kilograms of cocaine and \$1 million in cash from him. While awaiting trial on those charges, and while on home detention after being granted pre-trial release, Goff entered into yet another drug trafficking conspiracy. Trial testimony also showed that Goff arranged for some shipments of illegal drugs to enter the country from Mexico concealed in concrete road construction barriers. The drugs were removed from the barriers on a rural piece of property owned by Goff and distributed through his network.

Goff is the last of the 14 defendants to be convicted or plead guilty in the case. Judge Rose will set a date for sentencing.

Lockhart commended the cooperative investigation by agents of the DEA and IRS Criminal Investigation for their work on the case, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Dwight K. Keller and William F. Schenck Jr. who prosecuted the case.

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